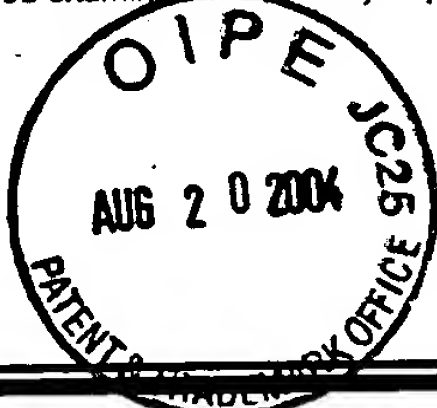


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REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for the continued examination of a utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995.



Application Number

09/923,543

Filing Date

August 8, 2001

First Named Inventor

Levan Higashigawa

Group Art Unit

2172

Name of Examiner

Fred I. Enichioya

Attorney Docket No.

011002

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

Note: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53 (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar 20, 2000) 1233 Off. Gazette Pat Office (April 11, 2000) which established RCE practice.

1.

Submission Required Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114

a. ☐ Previously submitted:

i. ☐ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on:
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered)

ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____

iii. ☐ Other _____

b. ☒ Enclosedi. ☒ Amendment/Replyii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)iv. ☒ Other: Request for Interview

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2.

Miscellaneous

a. ☐ Suspension of Action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months (period shall not exceed three months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required)

b. ☐ Other _____

3. The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

Fees

a. ☒ Check in the amount of \$770.00 is enclosed.i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 (e) - (\$770.00)ii. ☐ Extension of Time Fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17) - (\$400.00)iii. ☐ Other _____

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b. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit
Account No. 50-2866.

**REQUEST FOR
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)
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Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for the continued examination of a utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995.

PAGE 2



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SIGNATURE BY APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name Thomas E. Brown

Registration No.: 44,450

Signature

Date August 20, 2004

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, BOX RCE, Washington, D.C. 20231, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on:

Name

Signature